

STATOTHE

January 14, 1976

Mr. Reed J. Irvine
Accuracy in Media, Inc.
777 - 14th Street, NW
Suite 427
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Reed,

You may remember my December 16, 1975, letter to Ward Chamberlin, General Manager WETA-TV, copy attached. To date I have received no acknowledgment from Mr. Chamberlin. In the Washington Post, dated Saturday, January 10, the enclosed column appeared in which Tom Braden seems to be absolving himself from the same individuals with which he was associated in the TV documentary "The Rise and Fall of the CIA".

If Braden is so concerned about seeing the record straight, why didn't he speak up at the time "The Rise and Fall of the CIA" was shown in Washington if he was obviously misrepresented as the Deputy Director of the CIA? This seems to be a natural story for you and your great associates to look into and get the facts before the public. I know that Director Colby and his associates are looking for all the help possible in getting the facts before the public.

Cordially,

James R. Squires / kjs

James R. Squires

JRS/kjs

Enclosures

Pub Affs

CC: W. E. Colby

December 16, 1975

Mr. Ward Chamberlin
General Manager WETA-TV
3620 27th Street, So.
Arlington, Va.

Dear Mr. Chamberlain:

For many months, I have enjoyed the quality of programs generated by WETA. Compared with other Washington TV stations, I have found your news programs and documentaries to be quite objective.

The same cannot be said of your handling of "The Rise and Fall of the CIA". The hoopla and build up your promotional people gave this documentary obviously was intended to increase the size of your audience.

Unfortunately, this was a biased picture of the CIA, intended to portray it in the worst way. At the conclusion of the two-hour diatribe, I had expected you to have a panel discussion of the material which would include a spokesman or two from CIA. Instead, you have two WETA commentators who seemed to bless all that the documentary had said.

Finally, at the request of Mr. Colby, you donated 14 minutes at 10:45 on Friday night for Mr. Colby to have his rebuttal. This brief "answer time" was not ample. In addition, Paul Duke used half of the time to cross examine Mr. Colby.

I am very much disturbed and disappointed at WETA's handling of this matter. May I have answers to these questions:

1. Why didn't Paul Duke point out that Tom Braden NEVER WAS Deputy Director of CIA -- the title which he was given throughout the film?
2. Knowing that the film was anti-CIA, why didn't you have a panel available after the film for the CIA to give its reactions to the film?
3. In striving for objectivity, why didn't you take the initiative in contacting Mr. Colby asking him and his associates to present their side of the story; hopefully, allowing more than 14 minutes at 11 p.m. on a Friday night?

- 2 -

4. Why didn't you have a spokesman from the British film who produced this documentary on hand, along with CIA representatives, so the facts could be discussed?

I am a contributing member of the WETA family, but I resent your high-pressure spokesmen entreating me and others to give you more funds so you can sponsor more one-sided, inaccurate documentaries like "The Rise and Fall of the CIA".

I look forward to your reply.

Very truly yours,

James R. Squires

jrs/js

cc: Mr. William E. Colby
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

bcc: Mr. Reed Irvine
Accuracy in Media (Reed: Hope you are moving on this!)
777 14th St., N.W.
Wyatt Building
Washington, D. C.

THE WASHINGTON POST, SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1976

Tom Braden

National Self Torture

SAN JOSE—What do we want, we Americans? Expiation? Is that why we seem to lust for self torture? We will read anything which tells us how horrible we are and believe anybody who invents a grisly detail and adds it to the story.

Take a look at the magazine racks the next time you pass through an airport. It is hard to find one which does not bear upon its front cover some alleged new and inside fact about the CIA.

"How The CIA Controls The President" . . . "New CIA Murders Revealed" . . . "CIA's Link With Oswald." We seem to be unsatisfied with the hard news coming out of the Church committee. We want to believe worse. There are plenty of people around ready to turn a profit by giving us what we want.

Perhaps a writer named Andrew St. George is the most imaginative. He first appeared on the nation's newsstands with the charge that the CIA conducted the Watergate burglary and bungled it on purpose so as to bring Richard Nixon down. CIA couldn't tolerate Nixon, St. George explained, because the former President was setting up a dirty tricks shop inside a rival dirty tricks shop inside the White House.

As St. George told it, this was not just theory. He knew. He quoted a telephone conversation between CIA Director Richard Helms and the CIA watch officer of the night of the burglary. It proved his point, except that when questioned later he couldn't prove there had ever been any such conversation. Investigators concluded that he had invented it.

But who cares? St. George is back on the newsstands now with the story that the CIA planned the assassination of several members of the Kennedy Administration.

Did the magazine bother to find out that St. George was once a contract agent for the CIA whose contract was not renewed because his superiors decided they couldn't believe him? Or do the editors reason that the American people want to

the man who says so is suspect?

Or a turncoat like James Agee. Agee is a simpleminded man who once believed in Adm. Arleigh Burke and now believes in Karl Marx. His self-avowed aim is to destroy the CIA by spilling every secret he ever learned while he worked there—including the names and stations of his former colleagues. You will find Agee also in the magazines.

Victor Marchetti is a more complex type. He is making a handsome living by revealing classified documents in a book and in the pages of the sex magazines. His demeanor is that of the man who is performing a distasteful public service, "getting the truth out" in order to serve his country.

But they are all confessors of guilt and concoctors of demonology and they seem to serve our national mood so that reputable journalists are swallowing along with hook, line and sinker every piece of bait they can find on the water.

Take Daniel Schorr, the hard-working CBS reporter. Schorr ought to know better than to feed on the concoctions of self-serving liars.

Yet Schorr on a recent CBS news program "revealed," that Alexander Butterfield, the former White House aide who told about the White House taping system to the Ervin committee, had all along been a CIA agent.

Schorr's source was a Col. Fletcher Prouty whose book, "The Secret Team," purports to prove that the CIA runs the nation and whose reputation for accuracy is reportedly best summed up by the statement of a former colleague, "the biggest liar I ever knew."

Indeed the Prouty story turned out to be a lie. Perhaps Schorr later apologized for it. If so, I missed it.

But I wonder whether the American people care if what they read about the CIA is true or false. "Tell me something horrible even if it's not true." That seems to be what we want these days.

ER Base Pub affairs
dtd 16 Dec 75

Executive Registry
75-10229

December 23, 1975

STATOTHR

Mr. James R. Squires

Dear Mr. Squires:

Thank you for the copy of the letter
you sent to Mr. Ward Chamberlain of WETA.
I do appreciate your taking the time and
effort to try to achieve fairness in the
station's production.

Sincerely,

W. E. Colby
Director

WEC:lm (22 Dec 75)

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Executive Secretary

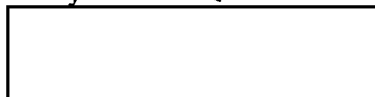
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Pub Affs

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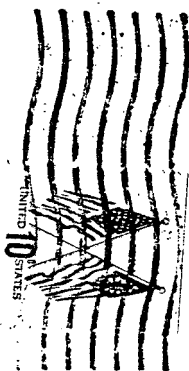
→ cc: Mr. William E. Colby
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

X-RAYED

Director
Central Intelligence Agency

Washington, D. C.

Mr. William E. Colby



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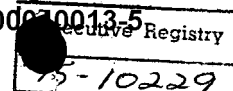
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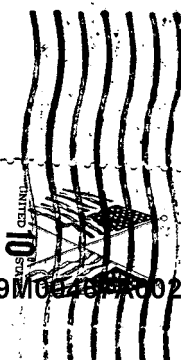
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→ cc: Mr. William E. Colby
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

X-RAYED

Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Mr. William E. Colby



ed For Release 2002/05/07 : CIA-RDP79M00467A002700

JAMES R. SQUIRES



ed For Release 2002/05/07 : CIA-RDP79M00467A002700

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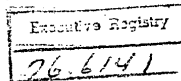
Executive Secretary



KCRG
ABC
For Eastern Iowa

→ Asst to DCT *1/13/76*
CHANNEL 9 TELEVISION / RADIO 1600

Box 816 Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52408



The following Editorial Comment by Edna Herbst, Vice President of The KCRG Stations and Member of The KCRG Stations Editorial Board, is scheduled for broadcast on KCRG-RADIO at 8:30 AM and 5:35 PM and for telecast on KCRG-TV following Noon News, within Gunsmoke 4-5 PM, between 10:30 and 11:30 PM and just before the Sign-Off News on January 8, 1976.

THE ZEAL WHICH SOME
PUBLIC OFFICIALS, ESPECIALLY
PUBLICITY-HUNGRY MEMBERS
OF CONGRESS, HAVE DISPLAYED
IN WASHING OUR DIRTY LINEN
IN PUBLIC HAS GONE TOO FAR.

WE REFER TO THE ASSAS-
SINATION OF RICHARD WELCH,
A U-S DIPLOMAT IN GREECE,
WHO WAS GUNNED DOWN OUTSIDE
HIS HOME IN ATHENS ON
CHRISTMAS EVE.

THERE SEEMS LITTLE DOUBT
HE WAS A C-I-A OPERATIVE.
HIS NAME HAD BEEN MADE
PUBLIC BY SEVERAL GROUPS,
ALLEGEDLY INCLUDING EVEN
THE SENATE INTELLIGENCE
COMMITTEE HEADED BY SENATOR
FRANK CHURCH, ALTHOUGH
CHURCH DENIES THAT.

THESE GROUPS, BENT ON
CURING ALL THE ILLS OF OUR
INTELLIGENCE GATHERING

Edna Herbst

PAGE TWO

FORCES, MUST SHARE THE
BLAME FOR WELCH'S DEATH.
BY MAKING HIS IDENTITY
KNOWN, THEY IN EFFECT
TURNED WELCH INTO A
"SITTING DUCK."

BASED ON REVELATIONS TO
DATE, SOME REFORMS ARE
NEEDED IN THE C-I-A AND
F-B-I.

BUT LET'S NOT OVERLOOK
ONE IMPORTANT FACT--
THERE IS STILL A NEED FOR
THESE AGENCIES BECAUSE, NO
MATTER HOW MUCH WE HEAR
ABOUT DETENTE, THE COLD
WAR STILL RAGES. THAT
MEANS IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT
WE KEEP TRACK OF THE SUB-
VERSIVES WHO ARE INTENT ON
OVERTAKING THE WORLD, OR
PARTS OF IT, BY FORCE.

THE DEATH OF WELCH
POINTS TO THE NECESSITY OF
ENDING THE "OPEN SEASON" ON
THE C-I-A AND F-B-I BEFORE
THESE AGENCIES ARE DESTROYED.

THAT WILL CERTAINLY
HAPPEN IF THEY ARE UNABLE TO
ATTRACT QUALIFIED, CAPABLE
PERSONNEL TO THEIR RANKS
TO PERFORM THE RISKY WORK
WHICH MUST BE DONE.

THE KCRG STATIONS ARE
INTERESTED IN ADDITIONAL
IDEAS ON THIS SUBJECT.
THOSE WISHING TO COMMENT
SHOULD CONTACT THE STATIONS.

REDAR RAPIDS TELEVISION COMPANY
2ND AVENUE AT 5TH STREET SE
REDAR RAPIDS, IOWA 52401
REGISTVS RADIO 16

Mr. William Colby
Director
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Washington, D. C.

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